



**PATENT APPLICATION**

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re application of

Docket No: Q76031

Hidetsugu SHIMURA, et al.

Appln. No.: 10/622,193

Group Art Unit: 2852

Confirmation No.: 2231

Examiner: Not Yet Assigned

Filed: July 18, 2003

For: **IMAGE FORMING APPARATUS AND IMAGE FORMING METHOD**

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**  
**UNDER 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 and 1.98**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In accordance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. § 1.56, Applicant hereby notifies the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office of the documents which are listed on the attached PTO/SB/08 A & B (modified) form and/or listed herein and which the Examiner may deem material to patentability of the claims of the above-identified application.

One copy of each of the listed documents, other than any U.S. patents and patent publications, is submitted herewith.

The present Information Disclosure Statement is being filed: (1) No later than three months from the application's filing date; (2) Before the mailing date of the first Office Action on the merits (whichever is later); or (3) Before the mailing date of the first Office Action after filing a request for continued examination (RCE) under §1.114, and therefore, no Statement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e) or fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(p) is required. Nevertheless, since a statement can be made, a statement is submitted herewith.

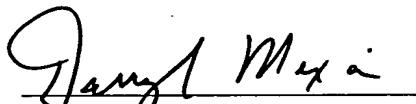
INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT  
U.S. Appln. No.: **10/622,193**  
Attorney Docket No. **Q76031**

In compliance with the concise explanation requirement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.98(a)(3) for foreign language documents, Applicant encloses herewith a copy of a Communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart application citing such documents, together with an English-language version (if not already included) of at least that portion of the Communication indicating the degree of relevance found by the foreign patent office.

The submission of the listed documents is not intended as an admission that any such document constitutes prior art against the claims of the present application. Applicant does not waive any right to take any action that would be appropriate to antedate or otherwise remove any listed document as a competent reference against the claims of the present application.

The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any overpayments to said Deposit Account. A duplicate copy of this paper is attached.

Respectfully submitted,

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Darryl Mexic  
Registration No. 23,063

SUGHRUE MION, PLLC  
Telephone: (202) 293-7060  
Facsimile: (202) 293-7860

WASHINGTON OFFICE  
**23373**  
CUSTOMER NUMBER

Date: **February 17, 2004**



PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of

Docket No: Q76031

Hidetsugu SHIMURA, et al.

Appln. No.: 10/622,193

Group Art Unit: 2852

Confirmation No.: 2231

Examiner: Not Yet Assigned

Filed: July 18, 2003

For: IMAGE FORMING APPARATUS AND IMAGE FORMING METHOD

**STATEMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e)**

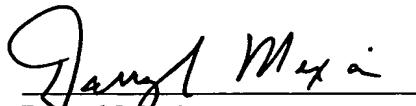
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

The undersigned hereby states, upon information and belief:

That each item of information contained in the Information Disclosure Statement filed concurrently herewith was first cited in any communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of said Information Disclosure Statement.

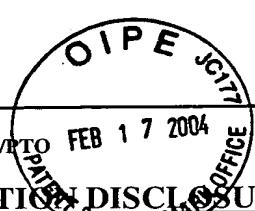
Respectfully submitted,

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Darryl Mexic  
Registration No. 23,063

SUGHRUE MION, PLLC  
Telephone: (202) 293-7060  
Facsimile: (202) 293-7860

WASHINGTON OFFICE  
23373  
CUSTOMER NUMBER

Date: February 17, 2004



**Substitute for Form 1449 A & B/PTC**

FEB 17 2004

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE  
STATEMENT BY APPLICANT**

*(use as many sheets as necessary)*

Sheet

1

of

1

*Complete if Known*

Application Number	10/622,193
Confirmation Number	2231
Filing Date	July 18, 2003
First Named Inventor	Hidetsugu SHIMURA
Art Unit	2852
Examiner Name	Not Yet Assigned
Attorney Docket Number	Q76031

Examiner Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date Considered \_\_\_\_\_

\*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

<sup>1</sup>Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). <sup>2</sup>See Kind Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at [www.uspto.gov](http://www.uspto.gov), MPEP 901.04 or in the comment box of this document. <sup>3</sup>Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST. 3). <sup>4</sup>For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. <sup>5</sup>Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. <sup>6</sup>Applicant is to indicate here if English language Translation is attached.